

Advisory Committee on Trauma  
Meeting Notes  
August 28, 2002

**ATTENDING:** Dr. Paul Harrison, Kerry McCue, Connie Meyer, Dr. Craig Concannon, Lois Towster, Dr. Scott Sellers, Darlene Whitlock, Robert Orth, Jack Shearer, Tim Pitts, Mike Bradford, Chris Collins, Walt Regehr, Sen. David Haley, Rep. Judy Showalter, Rep. Garry Boston, Dr. Dennis Allin, Pam Kemp, Pat Dowlin, and Jeff Strickler.

**ABSENT:** Mr. Roger John, Nancy Brown, Sen. Susan Wagle, and Leanne Irsik

Dr. Harrison called the meeting to order. Minutes from the May 29<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed and approved.

**Election of Officers:**

Rosanne reported that state statute requires both the chair and vice chair of the committee to be elected at the first meeting after July. Bob Orth made the motion that we re-elect the current chair ( Dr. Paul Harrison) and vice chair (Dr. Dennis Allin.) The motion was seconded by Dr. Craig Concannon. The committee approved the motion by voice vote.

Dr. Harrison and Dr. Allin expressed their appreciation to the committee for their support on this project.

**KS Rural Health Information Service (KRHIS):**

Chris Tilden, KDHE Rural Health Director provided an overview of the Kansas Rural Health Information Service (KRHIS). KRHIS is a service of KDHE which allows users to register on-line to receive information about rural health in Kansas. When you register you will be asked to decide what kind of information you want to received from a range of categories. This service is designed to provide targeted information that is useful. Trauma and EMS are two categories with this system. Notices will be sent out to registered users by email or fax.

**EMS/Trauma System Grant:**

Rosanne reported that we were awarded grant funding from HRSA for the EMS- Trauma Systems project. . An abstract of the project was provided in previous mailings. The grant has a three year project period with \$40,000 per year funding. This proposal was a collaborative effort between KDHE and EMS. We have since learned that the Adjunct General's office is also proposing to do a survey of emergency dispatch centers in Kansas. Rather than duplicate efforts with a survey, we will be working with the Adjunct General's office to send one survey to all EMD centers. Members of the ACT who volunteered to assist with developing and reviewing survey questions are: Kerry McCue, Connie Myers, Tim Pitts and Dr. Allin.

As a condition of grant funding, KDHE needs to respond regarding pediatric representation on the ACT. Darlene Whitlock suggested that we include in our response that we have representation on the committee from two ACS verified level 1 trauma facilities that include pediatric verification. Kansas does not have a children's speciality hospital but both Wesley and Via Christi- St. Frances have received pediatric verification as level 1 trauma centers. Rosanne will provide a follow up response to HRSA with the committee's recommendation.

### **Trauma System Informational Meetings:**

Darlene gave an update on the informational meetings that were held in Pittsburg and Great Bend. A third information meeting was held in July in Topeka. There were 25 people attending the Topeka meeting including physicians, nurses and EMS. Darlene distributed a draft copy of the brochure developed to promote the Kansas Trauma System. The brochure has been developed to promote the Kansas Trauma System and answer frequently asked questions.

### **Traumatic Brain Injury Project:**

Dr. Harrison asked Michael Deegan, SRS Traumatic Brain Injury Project Director to provide a brief overview of their project. SRS is the recipient of a federal planning grant to address traumatic brain injury. They have an advisory board to help them establish priorities. The advisory board recently completed a needs assessment and will be developing a plan based upon those identified needs. They will be submitting an implementation grant later this fall. They would like to collaborate with the ACT where feasible.

### **Trauma Registry Update:**

Sherry Davis provided an update on the status of the trauma registry and implementation with hospitals. We currently have 23 facilities that have been trained since the first of the year on the Collector Software system. We have planned another week of training for interested hospitals the week of November 4<sup>th</sup>. Current users of the Collector software have been meeting on a bi-monthly basis. This is a forum for those currently using the collector system to address issues and concerns they may have regarding trauma registry implementation. A meeting schedule of the user's group was distributed.

It is proposed all current software users be sent a letter outlining responsibilities and a timeline for data submission to the central site registry at the state. A draft letter was distributed for review. We are in the process of working with three facilities in converting data from other trauma registry software systems into the Collector system. It is anticipated that the first download from hospitals to the state system will be in February, 2003. We do not expect hospitals to retroactively collect data but to start collecting with implementation of the registry software.

A trauma registry software training is being planned for Nov. 5 & 6<sup>th</sup> in Topeka. We will also plan on an advanced report writing class at that time.

### **Trauma Education Contract:**

Tom Sipe and Darlene Whitlock provided an update on the trauma education contract. They are working on development of a trauma web site. The proposed web address is Kansastrama.com. It was suggested that we look at changing this to a .org site as .com implies that it is a commercially sponsored web site address rather than non-profit/governmental. It is expected that they will have the web site functional by next month. It is anticipated that one will be able to check for availability and location of upcoming trauma education classes. There was discussion as to expanding trauma education classes to other programs such as BTLIS, ENPEC. The current trauma education contract with the consortium is a three year annually renewable contract for PHTLS, TNCC and ATLS. In order to evaluate the effectiveness of this project and to make an impact in providing trauma education, these are the three classes that were identified as a need at previous ACT meetings. We have little flexibility with changing contract deliverables once the contract has been awarded.

ATLS classes have been scheduled for Hays, Sept. 13 & 14<sup>th</sup>. There are four people on the waiting list. All but four of the 16 people scheduled for this class are physicians. The ACS allows up to 25% of the class participants to be PA's or ARNPs. It was agreed that we need to verify at registration that those enrolled in the class should be practicing in the rural areas of the state and be a provider of care in the emergency department setting.

At least one TNCC class has been either been provided or approved for each of the six RTCs. The following sites have had a TNCC classes approved: Sabetha, Newton, Smith Center, Fredonia, Atwood and Liberal. There was agreement that LPNs, EMTs may take the class but contract funds were not to be used to support their registration fee as they can not be certified per ENA regulations.

PHTLS classes have been approved for the following areas: Abilene and Kinsley. Hill City is the third location and details are being finalized.

Letters were sent by the consortium to all instructors in the state informing them of the availability of funding. A list is being compiled of those requesting program funding.

### **Regional Trauma Councils:**

Since our last meeting we have added the last two regional councils. On May 30<sup>th</sup>, the south east region met in Parsons. Chris Way, EMS director in Labette was elected as chair. The last region to meet was in the north east on June 20<sup>th</sup> in Topeka. Dr. Michael Moncure, KUMC was elected as chair. A complete listing of executive committee members for each of the regions is available on the KDHE web site.

Warren Hixson submitted a letter resigning as the NW RTC representative as of August 1<sup>st</sup>. The NW regional council has submitted the names of three people to the Governor's office for consideration as a replacement for Mr. Hixson. We also received a resignation letter from the

Chair of the SW region, Dr. Graeme Rodgman. Dr. Rodgman will be relocating out of the SW area.

Several of the regional councils have scheduled their first meeting of the executive committee to review by-laws and set up subcommittees. The SC meeting meet in Hutchinson on August 1<sup>st</sup>. The SE region has a meeting scheduled for September and the NC will be meeting in October.

A contract was signed with the Kansas Foundation for Medical Care to assist KDHE in providing a coordinator for the regional councils. Kendra Tinsley, MS, LCP who was the KDHE regional Injury Prevention Coordinator has been hired to staff that position.

**Board of EMS:**

David Lake discussed current activities of the Board of EMS. A handout was provided which included an overview of 2002 legislation affecting the board, new regulations impacting their agency, recruitment and retention issues and investigation/inspection trends. The 2003 EMS Summit has been scheduled for Feb. 12 & 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Future ACT Meeting Dates:**

February 19, May 28, August 27 and November 19, 2003

**Other:**

The November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a planning meeting. We will plan on starting at 8 am.